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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC 4079-83
6 June 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Staffers Ulm and Nichols of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, 3 June 1983

1. Topics and Participants. The briefing at Headquarters was an update at the staffers' request on nuclear developments in Pakistan, Libya, Taiwan, South Korea, Brazil, Argentina, and the PRC. I presented an overview of each situation, and a number of DDI analysts [REDACTED] answered questions. I introduced NIO/AL David Low and the staffers described the nature of their interests and responsibilities.

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2. Substantive Mainlines. In Pakistan, I said that work was continuing on the facilities for the production of both plutonium and highly-enriched uranium and that the Chinese had provided assistance on the latter. In Libya, I noted that a UF-6 plant (that produces feed material for uranium enrichment) was being sought from the Belgians and that the feasibility of uranium enrichment in Libya had been studied. I said that if US and PRC policies toward Taiwan remained relatively constant, interest in pursuing nuclear weapon development was likely to decrease there. I said that South Korea was not a short-term proliferation threat even though it had a great interest in reprocessing spent reactor fuel. I reported the shift in priority in the Brazilian program with an increase in resources now being accorded unsafeguarded nuclear research efforts. In Argentina, I noted that it still did not have the capacity to produce sufficient fissile material for a nuclear device. Finally, I said that the PRC could now be moving toward IAEA membership against the background of its sales of unsafeguarded nuclear materials.

3. Results. No follow-up commitments were made, but it is reasonable to assume that Ulm and Nichols will continue to seek additional detailed briefings from time to time given their principal's (Senator Percy) ongoing interest in the subject. The staffers asked that I forward their classified notes to them through appropriate channels.

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Assistant National Intelligence Officer at Large

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A/NIO/AL [REDACTED]

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